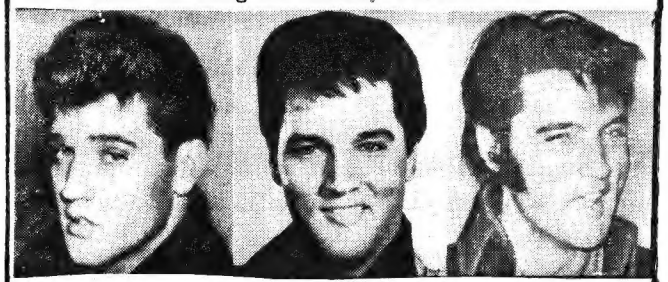
COMIX WORLD 79. September 1, 1977. Copyright by Clay Geerdes, 915 Indian Rock Road, Berkeley, Ca 94707. World Rights Reserved. Logos by Johnny Edgar and Bob Vojtko. This issue dedicated to the memory of Elvis Presley (1935-1977) who gave us all a lot of good songs. The King didn't know when to quit, and this line from his first big hit, Heartbreak Hotel, probably expresses his private life better than any other: "Well, it's been so long on lonely street . . ." * * *



Bay Con III was held in San Francisco at the Jack Tar Hotel. Put on by Sal Dichiera, it was mainly a dealer's con. Our Underground panel was held during the supper hour and was given little support by any but a handful of people. The point of the panel was that the contemporary ugs of the 70s are not like those of the 60s, that a lot of changes have taken place, yet a potential readership is being lost because ugs connote sex and violence. Believing that all ugs are "dirty comics", National distributors won't handle any of them. (Copies of the ug manifesto read at the con are available from me for 35¢pp first-class. It's a single broad-side, 11x14", no big deal, but some of you may want it.) Fact is, a great many ugs published these days are not adults-only comix and might sell to kids if they were available to them, but these comix are always displayed in the same area as other ugs in the comic stores. There is no reason why ugs cannot be subdivided into adult comix and general comix, but it's likely that concerned artists will have to discuss the change with store managers.* And why is that 9 foot Wart-hog blushing?* Dave Geiser's back in town. His latest is Pain (Bagginer Press).

What publisher comes out smelling like a rose? Ballantine. First STAR WARS then ELVIS, WHAT HAPPENED? This book which tells the inside story of Elvis as a white punk on dope and a gunfreak hit the stands the day after Elvis died. Text is by Steve Dunleavy from inside stories told him by bodyguards Red West, Sonny West, and Dave Hebler. Great stuff. I can see it all on film already (after a decent mourning period, of course). Elvis was a true Horatio Alger hero, a poor Southern boy who suddenly had the kind of money even well-educated folks would have trouble dealing with. All that power weirded him out as it would anyone.* Death in threes? Mark Schrorer, one of my profs at UC, died a few days before Elvis. Groucho Marx died 8/19, three days after. The latter two got all the press. So much for literary scholarship in America.* J. Michael Leonard joins the Rip Off Syndicate for thirteen weeks with his STAR WEEVILS. * EITHER ORCOMICS, a big fat one in the tradition of Crumb (social criticism), came out with such a tiny first printing that it's long gone & the guys in England who did it are trying to put everything together for a second printing. * Jaume Fargas has a comic store in Barcelona, Spain, called ZAP 275--the Spanish ug artists are waiting for ZAP to reach that No. There's optimism.* Shel Dorf & Rich Butner are having the first Hollywood Fan Fair at Hyatt House, 6225 W. Century Blvd, September 2-5, 1977, Los Angeles. Good luck, guys. 8-20

Ivan was at the Bay Con III with Gunfighter 4 (see his ad) and it's hardcore so don't forget to include your age statement when you order. This is a must on most ug comix.* River City Con is September 11, 10:30-6:30 at Sac State's University Union Building, 6000 J St., Sacramento, CA. $1.50. Information from Mike Garrels, 916-334-2845. Trina's on that program.* Phil Yeh's EVEN CAZCO GETS THE BLUES you get from him at Fragments West, P. O. Box 1128, Los Alamitos, CA 90720 and it's $5.50pp.* Colorado's Artie Romero (Everyman Comics) publishes a mini-comic like Hosier's MC. Called Platinum Toad, you can get one free from him for a 13¢ stamp. You can buy copies of Scrabbis Treno at the same time for 25¢ each, a lovely color tab with work by Artie, Anderson, O'Neill, Leonard, & others. Everyman Studios, 432 S. Cascade, Colorado Springs, Colo 80903.* For $3pp from Jack Venooker, 809 E. W. Manhattan, Santa Fe, N. M. 87501, you get the first issue of his Journal of Popular Culture. Work by Erling, Petertil, Cruse, Milke, and Hansen, one you collectors won't want to miss out on. Some great art in it.

...BLACKNESS... NOTHINGNESS...
GIVE OWER, MAN WILL YER! GOD! A' THOUGHT THIS WAS SUPPOSED T'BE A COMIC!..LIKE Y'KNA...COMEDY! FUNNY...
SSHHH! Y' RUININ' TH' EFFECT!
OH, SORRY! SORRY! MOST HUMBLY BEG 'A PARDIN'!
THEN YOU SEE IT!
CRAWLING AND HIDING FROM THE LIGHT...
AND YOU'RE FALLING INTO IT...
WHAT IS IT!? WHAT IS THIS...THIS... THING!?
THIS PUTRED, FETID HEAVING MORASS OF VILE-SMELLING EXCREMENT...
THIS SHIVERING SEA OF GLISTENING GREEN BILE AND DUNG.
AS YOU GET CLOSER YOU SEE THAT IT IS, IN FACT, A SEA OF FAECES.
YES! THIS BUBBLING MASS OF ORIGINAL SIN...
...IS HUMANITY!
WEE HEE!
AND YOU ARE IN FOR A LIFE SENTENCE.
MAMA
IN OTHER WORDS... YOU DON'T GET OUT ALIVE.
EH?!

(FROM EITHER ORCOMICS #1, ENGLAND. 1977)

If you're into offbeat humor mags of the 20s & 30s or just back issues of sex slicks, get in touch with Trent Dunphy at The Magazine, 835 Larkin Street, San Francisco, CA. Trent has everything from Film Fun to Spicy Stories and Bizarre. He also has a number of Fillmore posters & other items.* A page by Melinda Gebbie & a write-up on the San Diego Con in L. A.'s controversial STAR No. 138. * Metro 1 is a gag mag by Mike Wagner, 104 Orvieto, Newport Beach CA 92663. 50¢ pp. Exposure for artists, but no pay yet, strips and panels. * From England, Bog Standard Komix, and Positive Feedback 1, and yes, I have more info coming on the British scene. Patience, gang.* Bog Standard came with an authentic piece of British toilet paper stapled on the inside back cover-write that down you chroniclers!* FANATIC #5 reprints Crumb's "Modern America." An English mag.* Fat Freddy's Cat was the subject of an illustrated talk at the recent Konvention of Alternative Komix in England. This from David Noon who is about to publish MOON #2. * Another all women's comic due soon from England, this one (the first in that country) to be edited by Sue Varty.* COMMITTED COMIX from Ar-Zak in England. This one rates an A as a heavy political underground. Cover by Chris Welch. * Want a nice clean set of CWs? I've made up flat sets of 50-78 and they go for $5 pp this month. A nice way to turn a friend on to what we do in CW.* The ultimate collector's item is Joyce Farmer's left leg. She went with a few others to see Crumb and the Cheap Suit Serenaders play in a small San Francisco club during Bay Con. Crumb saw her leg and drew a picture of himself on it.* This by George Lucas in Rolling Stone: "I am very much into comic art, and it's place in society as a real art, because it is something that expresses the culture as strongly as any other art. . . Uncle Scrooge swimming around in that money bin is a key to our culture. . . .That is all art is, a way of expressing emotions that come out of a certain culture at a certain time . . . That's what comics are." 8-20-77

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